

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

This Amendment is Supplemental to the Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on September 5, 2007. By the present Supplemental Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 17, and 18. No new matter is added.

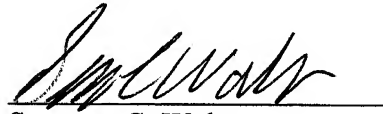
Claims 1, 3-6, 8-18, 20-23, 26, and 27 are all the claims pending in the application. In a telephone interview conducted on November 1, 2007, the Examiner indicated that the claims as presently amended would be patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-6, 8-18, 20-23, 26, and 27 are immediately allowable, and respectfully request an allowance of these claims.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 7, 2007